There are many conditions of mind and body that can be treated by animal-human interaction. At Colorado State University, we aspire to create a new home for equine-assisted activities and therapies, a place where individuals with physical, emotional, and developmental challenges can heal, where therapists can treat, where students can learn, and where scientists can research.

The Temple Grandin Equine Center will celebrate and elevate the role of the horse in society through the physical and emotional benefits of serving those in need. TGEC will integrate research and education in order to promote evidence-based practices of EAAT. TGEC will work for the betterment of horses and humans alike.

A collaborative effort among: College of Agricultural Sciences
College of Health and Human Sciences • College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
AN EXTENSION OF RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Partnering with horses to help individuals with disabilities and other challenges develop essential skills for daily living is both an ancient practice and a contemporary one. Testimonials abound of healing encounters between people and horses, but the anecdotal evidence requires validation through research in order to place EAAT practices on a sound scientific footing.

CSU’s Equine Sciences Program will be working in close partnerships with other University programs, including occupational therapy, psychology, social work, health and exercise science, Adult Learner and Veteran Services, and veterinary medicine; all of which will play an important role in the research activities provided by the TGEC. In addition, the TGEC will serve as a research hub for discovery of data-driven and evidence-based outcomes, proving the power and efficacy of equine-assisted activities and therapies.

A Home for the Future of EAAT

Situated at the CSU Foothills Campus immediately west of Fort Collins, the TGEC will include more than 40,000 square feet of classrooms, research, office, therapy, and riding areas. A large arena and multiple viewing areas will allow for participants and their families and caregivers, and students and researchers to observe progress and celebrate accomplishments.

All in one location:
- Highly and self-motivating activities and therapies
- Respite areas for families and caregivers
- Hands-on EAAT training in a practical and immediate setting
- Professional EAAT certifications for students
- EAAT research opportunities for graduate students
- Continuing education for EAAT industry professionals
- Host venue for EAAT industry seminars, clinics and conferences
- Library of EAAT literature
- Horse care, conditioning and training

Wendy Wood, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA
Director of Research

RESEARCH

Research conducted through TGEC will provide a body of evidence that supports practice and education in EAAT, expands services to broader groups of people, and promotes horse welfare.

EDUCATION

TGEC will provide students an opportunity for research-based learning in a dynamic, real-world environment, allowing them to contribute skills and knowledge to the EAAT industry as they become the future leaders in the profession.

AN EXTENSION OF RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS
Horses have changed Brandon’s life. Born weighing just more than one pound, he spent the first three months of his life in the hospital. His parents were told he would never walk or talk. Equine-assisted activities and therapies have built his confidence and improved his balance ... and he talks about horses all the time! **BRANDON IS THE TEMPLE GRANDIN EQUINE CENTER!**

Tyler was diagnosed with microcephaly, and struggles with cognitive delays and hand tremors. He is not comfortable with human interaction, but with horses he is confident and feels right at home. Working with horses has helped his interpersonal relationships, and Tyler now socializes better with his peers. This young man, who rarely used to speak, can frequently be heard telling his horse to “walk on,” and to “whoa!” **TYLER IS THE TEMPLE GRANDIN EQUINE CENTER!**

Isaac was diagnosed with autism and hypotonia four years ago, when he was 5. Hippotherapy has helped him gain strength and body awareness, and has decreased the number of times he falls down from several a day to only a few times each week. Isaac is a much happier and more confident child. **ISAAC IS THE TEMPLE GRANDIN EQUINE CENTER!**

Two-year-old Syler has Down syndrome and is about a year delayed with his gross motor development. When he started using hippotherapy, he could not walk or hold his father’s hand. Within three sessions of hippotherapy, not only was Syler strong enough to take his first steps on his own, but he arrived at the arena holding his father’s hand. Both were grinning ear to ear! **SYLER IS THE TEMPLE GRANDIN EQUINE CENTER!**
Your support of the Temple Grandin Equine Center will allow CSU to continue its outstanding research and innovative approaches, taking equine-assisted activities and therapies to a new level, benefiting horses and humans alike.

**DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN** is the most accomplished and well-known adult with autism in the world. Dr. Grandin’s incredible influence in autism advocacy continues to grow internationally. This world-renowned and celebrated animal scientist has used her amazing talent in the classroom and research laboratories at Colorado State University for more than 20 years.

The Temple Grandin Equine Center will honor the outstanding contributions of its namesake by providing outreach, programming, education, and research opportunities that will benefit all individuals with any special need to know the significant healing powers of the horse.

For more information, please contact:

**TEMPLE GRANDIN EQUINE CENTER**
Integrating Research and Education in Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies

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“The use of the horse for the mutual benefit of horses and mankind changes, but does not diminish. We believe strongly in a new role for the horse; one of aiding the process of emotional and physical healing.”

– Dr. Jerry Black, Wagonhound Land and Livestock Chair in Equine Sciences